

Named Recipient Grant - Voice of the Arctic Inupiat

**FY2023 Request:
Reference No:**

**\$1,000,000
63461**

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Construction

Category: General Government

Location: Northwest Arctic Borough

House District: Arctic (HD 40)

Impact House District: Arctic (HD 40)

Contact: Micaela Fowler

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2022 - 06/30/2027

Contact Phone: (907)465-2506

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

VOICE is a 501(c)(4) non-profit corporation whose twenty-four members include the representatives of federally-recognized tribes, municipal governments, Alaska Native corporations, the regional health-nonprofit, and the tribal college from the North Slope of Alaska. VOICE works on behalf of the Arctic region to promote and advocate issues for the benefit of regional communities.

Funding:	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	Total
1004 Gen Fund	\$1,000,000						\$1,000,000
Total:	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000

☐ State Match Required ☐ One-Time Project ☐ Phased - new ☐ Phased - underway ☐ Ongoing
0% = Minimum State Match % Required ☐ Amendment ☐ Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Project Description/Justification:

Provide local advocacy and engagement for the Iñupiat of the Arctic Slope to state, federal and international forums addressing Arctic issues.

Promote an understanding of the North Slope economy within the region and encourage culturally responsible development for economic sustainability.

Develop local content and responses with respect to activities within the region that allow for protection of land, waters, and subsistence resources and act to protect the interests of the Arctic Slope Inupiat.

Serve as a conduit for information transfer with outside organizations, including both governmental and non-governmental entities.

VOICE goals are intended to allow it to address and participate in legislation, regulations, and government programs to protect Iñupiat culture; increase communication and information sharing amongst Iñupiat organizations across the North Slope; ensure the development of North Slope natural

resources in a safe and responsible manner; and to promote Inupiat stewardship of the North Slope, with the ultimate of sustaining and evolving the economies, both subsistence and financial, economies of the North Slope region.

Providing such funding would allow rural entities to provide meaningful and culturally relevant engagement on issues that most affect them. It is important for rural communities to receive information and data in context to their community in a timely manner to be better informed and to expedite decision making in rural areas.